GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1783
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2002
REGULARISATION OF UNAUTHORISED CULTIVATION OF TOBACCO
KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tobacco growers of Karnataka have sought intervention by the Union Government inregularising the unauthorised cultivation of tobacco in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of the Union Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government had levied a 15 per cent fine on the excess production being grown in Karnataka last year;

(e) if so, the reasons for not levying such fine for excess production / unauthorised cultivation in other States;

(f) whether the Government have taken steps to regularise the unauthorised cultivation of tobacco in Karnataka; and
(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to(c) & (f) &(g): In response to representations received in respect of unauthorised tobacco grown in current year, the Tobacco Board has increased the authorised crop size of flue cured virginia tobacco from 42.08 million kg. to 50 million kg.

(d): The Government has levied the following penalties on excess production in Karnataka in 2001:

On excess tobacco produced by registered growers Rs. 2 per kg.+ 5% of the sale value

On unauthorised tobacco produced by unregistered growers Rs. 2 per kg. + 15% of the sale value

(e): In respect of other States, the Tobacco Board has retained 25% of the sale proceeds of unauthorised crop produced by unregistered growers in accordance with the orders of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. This matter is now before the Supreme Court.